forum to deal with sickness in SSI

*440. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether presently there is no forum like BIFR to deal with sickness in the Small Industries Sector;

(b) if so, the details of the machinery/forum at present available at the Central/State level to deal with sickness in the above sector;

(c) whether the seminar held at Ghaziabad (U.P.) under the auspices of the Confederation of Small Scale Industries in India (COSSI) in February, 1995 recommended creation of a BIFR like forum at the Central and the State levels to deal with sickness of the small scale industries sector;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made at the seminar in this regard; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the advice of the Government of India, the Reserve bank of India has set up State Level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs) in all States under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industries Department of the concerned State Government for working out a rehabilitation package for revival of viable sick small scale units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Recommendations are reproduced below:

"Sickness in large and medium scale units is dealt with by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). However, there is no such body to deal with the sickness in small scale industry sector despite raising this question from time to time on various forums and occasions. In view of the magnitude of problems faced by the SSIs throughout the country, this seminar of the Confederation of Small Scale Industries of India (COSSII) strongly favours creation of a body for settlement of cases relating to rehabilitation/winding up of sick units of BIFR at national and state levels with quasi-judicial powers to give mandatory directions to the Central and State Governments, financial institutions and commercial banks within the frame work of RBI guidelines. The cases relating to sickness upto Rs. 1 crore might be dealt with by the suggested state level statutory body and from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 3 crores could be tackled by the national body.

An appellant body might also be set up under Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries. Government of India to look into the cases that might come up after the verdict of state level organisation of settlement.

The present machinery i.e., SLIIC in the absence of quasi-judicial powers to give mandatory directions to the concerned agencies including banks, etc., within the framework of RBI guidelines has not provided the required relief to the SSIs in the matter of redressal of their grievances. Morever, no redressal system exists for the SSI units when banks do not adhere to the guidelines and the SSI units have to fight suits filed against them for no fault of theirs".

(e) The matter has been considered and for the present, among other things, the State Governments have been advised to revitalise the State Level Inter-Institutional Committees for the rehabilitation of the sick SSI units.

Technologies Developed by BARC

4695. SHRI G.Y KRISHNAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed new/latest technologies in various fields;

(b) if so, what are the names and details of the products inverted and whether there are import substitutions;

(c) whether these products are for captive consumption or could be used by others also;

(d) what is the market assessment/demand of the products referred to in part (b) above; and

(e) the names of the products which have not yet been commercialised and their tentative project cost and expected demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some of the technologies/products developed by the units of BARC are : (1) an upgraded parallel processor computer whose processing speed in equivalent to the conventional super computer of Gray xmp type, (2) high power plasma torches for industrial applications like metal melting, plasma decomposition of ceramic materials etc., (3) a 3-D modelling and virtual reality software package which would revolutionise the present concept of layout design of industrial units and the inspection and maintenance of plant systems, (4) a robotic flexible assembly network for automated assembly of components, (5) radioisotopes, used for industrial radiography in detection of leakages, (6) radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals which find use in various hospitals in the diagnosis and treatment of a number of diseases, (7) pressure sensitive adhesives which are used in paper industries, (8) concentrated invert sugar syrup as a sweetener in food and pharmaceutical industry (this is an import substitution product), (9) thyristor chopper system, an equipment which enables smooth and efficient speed control of suburban trains thus resulting in a 20% saving in total energy consumption.

(c) Most of the products and technologies developed by BARC are for in house use but have also found applications in various other organisations.

(d) BARC being a Research and Development (R & D) Centre does not as such carry out market assessment/demand. The technology transfers are essentially carried out at the request of private/public sector industries as a spin off benefit.

(e) Several technologies are ready for transfer while others are being processed for transfer. Among the former are infra red methane gas alarm unit, dust respirator, airline respirator (which are relevant for environment and health sectors), controlled potential coulo-meter, optical encoder and display unit, servopower amplifier for AC servomotor, micron air classifier, silver and sulphide ion selective electrode, etc. Some of the technologies for which transfer proposals are under process are BARC dry aerosol generation/inhalation system, horizontal honing machine, dynamic thermocouple temperature measuring system, Ga As laser data communicator, glass to metal filament bead seals, high and ultra high vaccum bellows sealed valves, commercial size desalination plant on MSF process, Plasma-thermal dissociation of zircon, etc.

The project cost and expected demand have to be worked out for each product.

Display of MBT Arjun in Defence Exhibition at Abu Dhabi

4696. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to stare:

(a) whether there was a proposal by DRDO to display the Arjun Main Battle Tank at the International Defence Exhibition at Abu Dhabi; and

(b) the reasons for which Government of India did not okay the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) DRDO had initially planned to include MBT ARJUN in